

"IT IS ERROR ALONE WHICH
NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF
GOVERNMENT; TRUTH CAN
STAND BY ITSELF."
—THOMAS JEFFERSON.

BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE.

"THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE AN
EXAMPLE IN ALL THAT IS GOOD,
AND THE LEADING SPIRIT IN EVERY
MOVEMENT WHICH HAS FOR ITS
OBJECT THE UPLIFTING OF THE
HUMAN RACE."
—WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

VOL. II.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SEPTEMBER 5, 1896.

No. 2.

OUR TICKET FOR 1896.

For President:
WILLIAM J. BRYAN,
OF NEBRASKA.

For Vice-President:
ARTHUR SEWALL,
OF MAINE.

McKINLEY AS A LETTER WRITER.

THE long delayed letter of candidate McKinley, accepting the nomination for the high office of President, has made its appearance, and doubtless has been read and studied by all those who were interested in the key note of the gold standard Republican party.

The document is lengthy, and in a short article like this we cannot review it as fully as we would like; but we will notice a few points and call attention to the weakness of part of his sophistry. Notwithstanding McKinley stands as the greatest apostle of "protection," and his name is the synonym of "high tariff," yet he discards the chronological order of the St. Louis platform, and treats the money question as the paramount issue of this campaign. In all his labored argument on the silver question, he has not advanced a single new idea or answered logically a single objection to the present gold standard.

The gentleman says the Republican party is not opposed to the use of silver money, but he says: "Bimetallism cannot be secured by independent action on our part." He is like the man who called upon Hercules to lift him out of the mire. Hercules told him to first try and help himself, which he did, and to his surprise extricated himself with ease. As long as it is to the interest of foreign countries to keep us where we are, how long will it be ere we shall get their aid to establish bimetallism? Will McKinley answer? While this would be President confesses our weakness as a nation to fix our own financial policy, in the same letter he asserts our ability to regulate our commerce and trade through a high tariff, which in some instances would amount to a prohibition in trade, and yet all this is to be done without an international agreement. In other words, England, a gold monarchy, can dictate our money laws, on account of our weakness; but England, as a free trade country, cannot force us to imitate her, on account of our commercial strength. The narrowness of the man is shown in his remarks about the bullion and mine owner. He says: "The owner of bullion would get a dollar for 53 cents worth of silver;" that "it would belong to him and nobody else;" that "other people would get it by labor or by giving something for it." He then goes on to show that these same dollars could not be kept on a par with gold, and that they would at last become only 53 cent dollars. If this be true, then will he please explain where the profit or benefit would come to the owner of bullion?

On the other hand, he says: "If the silver dollar could be kept equal to the gold dollar, then we would have no cheaper money than now, and be no easier to get." After such a lucid burst of logic, the Buckeye Napoleon must have felt weak. The trouble with him is, he, like all of his class, can think of no standard of value but that of

gold. With him gold is his god, his only test of value, the end of the law. Why is the silver in a silver dollar only worth 50 cents? It is because the gold in a gold dollar is worth 200 cents. What we want to do, is to reduce the unnatural value of gold by bringing it to the value of silver, by giving silver an even start in the race. Statesman McKinley makes the absurd statement, that no matter how plenty money is, it is just as hard to get as if it was scarce. The law of supply and demand has nothing to do with it, according to his idea. If they be true, then why not abolish money altogether, and end this vexed question?

He admits that we have now more silver in circulation than gold, thus conceding that we are now doing business on a silver basis, with a gold standard, but without the gold. If this is not about as dishonest a kind of a dollar as can be imagined then we don't understand the Ten Commandments. It is a dollar of false pretenses. The claim to be on a gold basis when we have not two per cent of gold with which to pay our indebtedness.

He attempts to give respectability to the old lie, that there was less than nine millions of silver dollars coined prior to 1873. He neglects to state that there was \$140,000,000 of silver coined prior to that date, according to the official reports of the U. S. mint. The object of his using the word "dollars" instead of the word "silver," was to mislead and deceive, which is unworthy a truly great man of such high ambition.

He asserts we have now in circulation more silver than a number of other foreign countries. In this statement he again goes astray, as he says "we have \$150,000,000 more silver money than France." We have just \$137,500,000 more than France, therefore he lacked just 12 per cent to telling the truth. But what of it? Does not Mr. McKinley know that we have almost double the population of France?

That the Republic of France is but little larger in area than the State of California? He did not inform the country, that while France is far behind us in commercial rank, she is the most prosperous nation in all Europe, and that she is a bimetallic nation, and has \$12.94 per capita in silver, while we have only \$8.77 per capita. By implication he attempts to degrade the silver cause, by reference to India, China and Mexico. Yet he does not tell the whole truth, by saying that India only has \$3.21 per capita of all kinds of money; China only \$2.08, and Mexico \$4.54.

Another ridiculous position is assumed by the ex-governor, namely: According to his own figures, the volume of money has decreased over \$78,000,000 in the last three years in this country, and yet he gives it out that, "the per capita for the nation, too, has been practically the same for the whole period."

With a population increasing at the rate of two million per year, and the volume of money decreasing at the rate of twenty-six million dollars per year, how the per capita of money can remain the same, is one of the problems the ordinary mind cannot understand. A goldbug candidate alone can comprehend this paradox.

He talks about "opening up the mills." "We need no more money, but factories and mills." The river has run dry, the ferry boat is stranded upon a sand bar, and is cracking and warping in the sun. The owner is despondent and has nothing to do. Mr. McKinley comes along and says: "My friend, why don't you build more ferry boats?" "If you had more boats and confidence you could make more money." This may sound all right; but the owner would undoubtedly say: "If there was plenty of water in the river, I could do very well with the boat I now have."

When money is scarce the river of trade is low; everybody begins to economize; they eat less, wear less, take less pleasure, and buy less of the producer. The producer in turn produces less, and cuts down his force of help; and thus the laborer is out of employment, and all suffer. Mr. McKinley has absolutely failed to grasp the situation of his countrymen. He shows himself to be the willing tool of the money power, and ready to carry out their demands. He is not a free man himself, having been bought and paid for by the Hanna syndicate, and he stands ready to deliver the goods. But the people of this country are not yet ready to turn our financial policy over to the gold barons of England and New York.

After a careful reading of this long-winded effort, it is clearly apparent to any one that the author of this letter was trying to write to please his bosses, and discharge a legal obligation, rather than express the sentiments that honestly suggested themselves to his mind. The poor man had to perform a contract, and he done the best he could with the material on hand.

LET US HAVE UNITY.

THE action of the Democratic State and County committees, in appointing conference committees, is commendable, and should meet with a hearty co-operation from all the patriotic friends of free silver. In union there is strength. This is a year of unusual political affiliation. The people are breaking away from old party ties, and uniting for a common purpose of self-preservation. This is no time for partisanship to rise above the interest of home and country.

There are hundreds, yea, thousands of pure, honest men and women in Utah and in Salt Lake county, who have heretofore been identified with the Republican party, who now seek to secure the free coinage of silver and elect Mr. Bryan President of the United States. They must know that the mere election of Bryan could not accomplish the enactment of a free silver law, unless he was sustained by a majority in both houses of Congress. Therefore the election of a free silver Senator, and member of the House of Representatives from Utah, is as important as to have the electoral vote of Utah cast for Mr. Bryan. To make sure of this result, all true silver men, be they Democrats or Republicans, should unite their strength. To accomplish this, there should be an understanding between all parties as to a plan of action. The Broad Ax favors an equitable division of local offices, such as members of the legislature, county and precinct offices, among the various friends

of silver, regardless of their former political opinions. In other words, we favor fusion on a fair and equitable basis.

If this can be done, then Utah will not only give Bryan the electoral vote, but will send men to Congress who will hold up his hands.

MERRY SERENADERS.

On Thursday night of last week, Mr. and Mrs. Julius F. Taylor were honored with a serenade from the Bryan Silver Quartette, composed of Mr. and Mrs. William Macon and Mr. John Harlow. After several delightful selections were played on the guitar and mandolin, all joined in a chorus and made the house resound with song. The music and singing was a rare treat, and our sincere wish is that long may live the Bryan Silver Quartette, and success to its organizer, Mr. Wm. Macon.

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